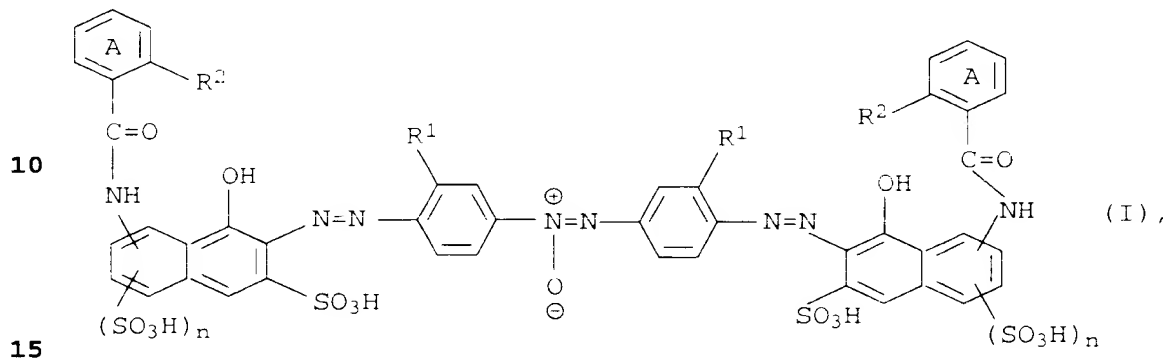


We claim:-

1. Azoxy dyes of the general formula I in the form of the free acid



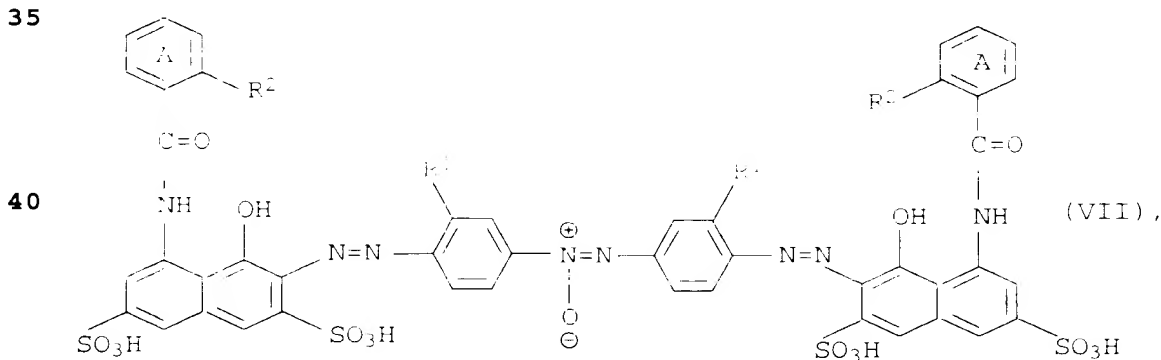
where

n is 0 or 1, each

R¹ is selected from the group consisting of methoxy, hydroxyl and carboxyl each

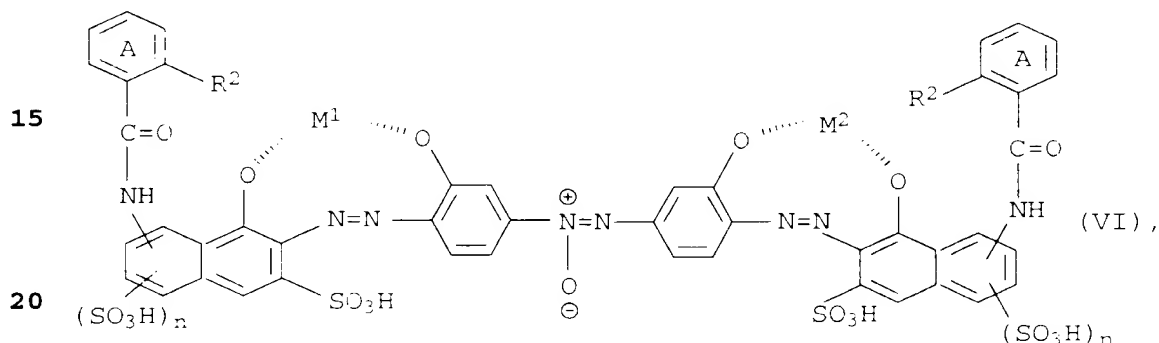
R² is selected from the group consisting of carboxyl, amino, C₁-C₄-alkylamino, allylamino, benzylamino and methoxycarbonylmethylamino, and the phenyl rings A may additionally be substituted by C₁-C₈-alkyl, unsubstituted or methyl- or halogen-substituted phenyl, hydroxyl, amino, nitro, halogen, carboxyl, N-benzylcarbamoyl, unsubstituted or nitro-, halogen-, C₁-C₄-alkoxy- or acetoxy-substituted phenylcarbamoyl and naphthylcarbamoyl or be benzofused.

2. Azoxy dyes as claimed in claim 1 of the general formula VII in the form of the free acid



where R¹, R² and A are each as defined in claim 1.

3. Azoxy dyes as claimed in claim 1 or 2, wherein each R^1 is methoxy.
4. Azoxy dyes as claimed in any of claims 1 to 3, wherein the phenyl rings A are unsubstituted or C_1 - C_4 -alkyl-substituted.
5. Azoxy dyes as claimed in any of claims 1 to 4, wherein each R^2 is carboxyl.
6. Copper complex dyes of the general formula VI in the form of the free acid

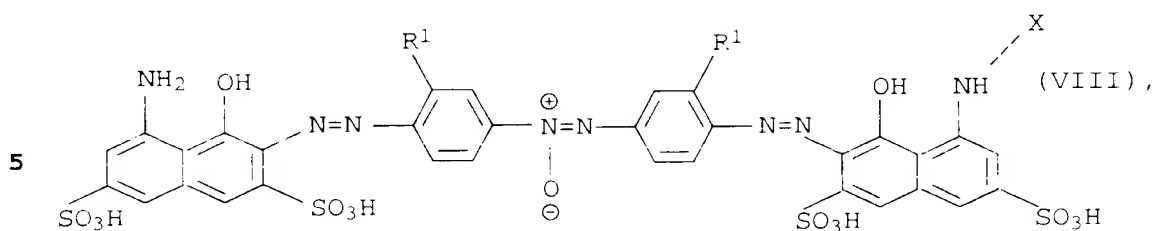


where at least one of M^1 and M^2 is copper(II) and any which is not is hydrogen and methyl, and n , R^2 and A are each as defined in claim 1, and mixtures thereof.

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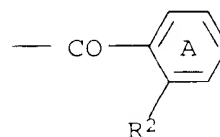
7. Copper complex dyes and their mixtures obtainable by reacting the dyes of any of claims 1 to 6 with at least 0.1 mol equivalent of a copper donor.
8. A process for preparing copper complex dyes, which comprises reacting an azoxy dye of any of claims 1 to 5 with at least 0.1 mol equivalent of a copper donor.
9. A method of using one or more azoxy dyes and/or their copper complexes of any of claims 1 to 7 for dyeing or printing natural or synthetic substrates.
10. Natural or synthetic substrates dyed or printed with one or more azoxy dyes and/or their copper complexes of any of claims 1 to 7.
11. Azoxy dyes of the general formula VIII in the form of the free acid

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where

10 X is hydrogen or a radical of the formula



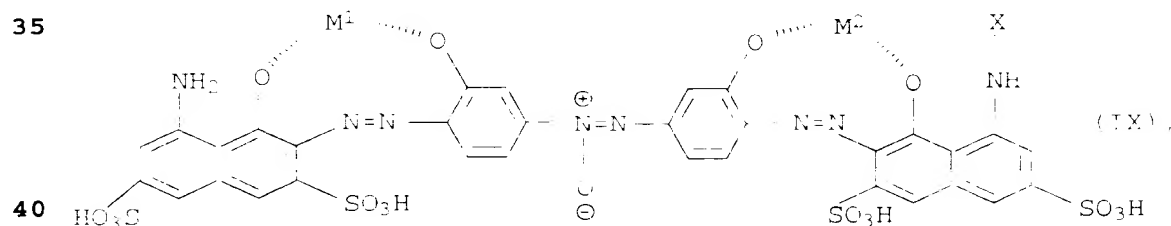
R¹ is selected from the group consisting of methoxy, hydroxyl and carboxyl,

20 R² is selected from the group consisting of carboxyl, amino, C₁-C₄-alkylamino, allylamino, benzylamino and methoxycarbonyl-methylamino and the phenyl ring A may additionally be substituted by substituents selected from the group consisting of C₁-C₈-alkyl, unsubstituted phenyl, methyl-substituted phenyl, halogen-substituted phenyl, hydroxyl, amino, nitro, halogen, carboxyl, N-benzylcarbamoyl, unsubstituted or nitro-, halogen-, C₁-C₄-alkoxy- or acetoxy-substituted phenylcarbamoyl and naphthylcarbamoyl or may be benzofused.

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12. Copper complex dyes of the general formula IX in the form of the free acid

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where at least one of M¹ and M² is copper(II) and any which is not is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen and methyl and X is as defined in claim 11, and mixtures thereof.

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